United Nations E/CN.9/1998/L.2

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
25 February 1998

Original: English

Commission on Population and Development
Thirty-first session
23-27 February 1998
Agenda item 7

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-first session

Draft report

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. William Toro **Cabrera** (Peru)

Introduction

1. The Commission on Population and Development held its thirty-first session at United Nations Headquarters from 23 to 27 February 1998.

Chapter I. Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

(To be completed)

Chapter II. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development

A. Health and mortality

2. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 3 (a) of its agenda, entitled "Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development: health and mortality", at its 1st to 3rd meetings, on 23 and 24 February 1998. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, 1998: health and mortality (E/CN.9/1998/2);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes: programme experience in implementing health and mortality activities (E/CN.9/1998/3);

(c) Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All: health and mortality (E/CN.9/1998/4);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities conducted by non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations in sexual and reproductive health and rights: three years after the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/1998/5);

98-04529 (E) 260298

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the flows of financial resources for population activities (E/CN.9/1998/6).

3. At the 1st meeting, on 23 February, the Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat made an introductory statement.

4. At the same meeting, the Assistant Director and Chief of the Demographic Analysis Branch of the Population Division introduced the concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, 1998: health and mortality (E/CN.9/1998/2). The special discussant, Mr. Shiro Horiuchi of The Rockefeller University, also made a statement.

5. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Belgium, Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, and associated countries), the United States of America, China, the Sudan, the Russian Federation, Jamaica and Turkey.

Reports contained in documents E/CN.9/1998/3-6

6. At the 2nd meeting, on 23 February, the Director of the Technical and Policy Division of the United Nations Population Fund made an introductory statement. Introductory statements were also made by the representative of the Technical and Policy Division of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/CN.9/1998/3; the Deputy Director of the Technical and Policy Division and Chief of the Policy Branch of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force contained in document E/CN.9/1998/4; the Chief of the Technical Branch of the Technical and Policy Division of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/CN.9/1998/5; and the representative of the Technical and Policy Division of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/CN.9/1998/6.

7. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Bangladesh, the Sudan, Ukraine, Egypt, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Sweden, Jamaica, Algeria, the Republic of Korea and Japan. The representative of the World Health Organization made a statement. The representative of the International Organization for Migration also made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Committee for International Cooperation in National Research in Demography (a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, Roster) and Advocacy for Women's Health (a working group of international non-governmental organizations).

8. At the 3rd meeting, on 24 February, statements were made by the representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

B. Process for the quinquennial review and appraisal in 1999

9. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 3 (b) of its agenda, entitled "Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development: process for the quinquennial review and appraisal in 1999", at its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 23 and 24 February 1998.

10. At the 2nd meeting, on 23 February, the Director of the Population Division introduced a draft outline of the quinquennial review and appraisal.

11. At the same meeting, the representative of Canada made a statement.

12. At the 3rd meeting, on 24 February, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund made a statement.

13. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, and associated countries), the Sudan, Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the United States of America, Brazil, India and Sweden.

Chapter III. General debate on national experience in population matters: health and mortality

14. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 4 of its agenda, entitled "General debate on national experience in population matters: health and mortality", at its 3rd to 5th meetings, on 24 and 25 February 1998.

15. At the 3rd meeting, on 24 February, statements were made by the representatives of Bangladesh, Japan, China, Thailand, Kenya, Algeria, Canada, Pakistan, Mexico and the Russian Federation.

16. At the 4th meeting, on 24 February, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, the Republic of Korea, Egypt, the Niger, South Africa, Brazil and Ethiopia and the observer for Poland.

17. At the 5th meeting, on 25 February, statements were made by the representatives of India, Jamaica, El Salvador, Malta, Ukraine, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey, Malaysia, Sweden, the Sudan, Indonesia, Peru and Malawi and the observers for Switzerland and the Holy See.

Chapter IV. Programme questions

18. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 5 of its agenda, entitled "Programme questions", at its 5th and 6th meetings, on 25 February 1998. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of work in the field of population in 1997: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/1998/7);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the programme of work in population for the biennium 1998-1999: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/1998/8);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/1998/CRP.1).

19. At the 5th meeting, on 25 February, the Director of the Population Division made an introductory statement.

20. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Bangladesh, the Republic of Korea and India and the observer for the Holy See. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations made a statement. The representative of the Population Institute (a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, Roster) also made a statement.

21. At the 6th meeting, on 25 February, statements were made by the representatives of Brazil and Kenya. The representative of the World Health Organization made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa.

Chapter V. Provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission

(To be completed)

Chapter VI. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-first session

(To be completed)

Chapter VII. Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

22. The Commission on Population and Development held its thirty-first session at United Nations Headquarters from 23 to 27 February 1998. The Commission held __ meetings (1st to __ meetings).

23. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, who also made a statement.

24. Opening statements were also made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and the Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

B. Attendance

25. The session was attended by __ States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for ___ non-member States also attended. Representatives of specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is given in annex __ to the present report (annex to be included).

C. Election of officers

26. At the 1st, 2nd, 4th and __ meetings, on 23, 24 and __ February 1998, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman:
Raj Karim (Malaysia)

Vice-Chairmen:
Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium)
Osmane Mahamane Tandina (Niger)
( )

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur:
William Toro Cabrera (Peru)

D. Report of the Bureau on its inter-sessional meeting

27. At the 1st meeting, on 23 February 1998, the Commission heard a statement by Mr. Rudolfo Tuiran (Mexico), who introduced the report of the Bureau on its inter-sessional meeting (E/CN.9/1998/CRP.2, to be issued), held under his chairmanship in Mexico City on 12 and 13 September 1997.

28. At the same meeting, the Commission took note of the report of the Bureau on its inter-sessional meeting.

E. Agenda

29. At the 1st meeting, on 23 February 1998, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.9/1998/1, as modified upon the recommendation of the Bureau at its inter-sessional meeting. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters:
   (a) Report of the inter-sessional meeting of the Bureau;
   (b) Organization of work;
   (c) New proposals: reporting requirements and other proposals.
3. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development:
   (a) Health and mortality;
   (b) Process for the quinquennial review and appraisal in 1999.
4. General debate on national experience in population matters: health and mortality.
5. Programme questions:
   (a) Programme performance and implementation in 1997;
   (b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999.
6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-first session.

F. Documentation

30. The documents before the Commission at its thirty-first session are listed in annex __ to the present report (annex to be included).

G. Consultation with non-governmental organizations

31. In accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council, made statements in connection with agenda item 4:

(To be completed)

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.9/1998/L.3
26 February 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Thirty-first session
23-26 February 1998
Agenda item 3 (a)

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: HEALTH AND MORTALITY

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), on the basis of informal consultations

The Commission on Population and Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1995/7 of 19 July 1995 in which it urged Member States to carry out population and housing censuses during the period 1995-2004.

Taking into account the report of the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination at its nineteenth session, 10-13 February 1998,[1] which, inter alia, addresses the prospects for the 2000 round of population and housing censuses,

Emphasizing the importance of up-to-date population and housing census information for implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the country level and for decision-making by Governments on a wide range of policy issues,

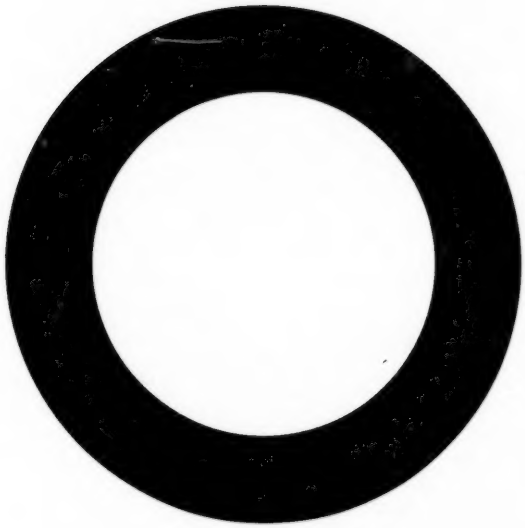
[1] To be issued as E/CN.3/AC.1/1998/L.12 and Add.1.

Mindful of the technical limitations of sample surveys as vehicles for the collection of data on adult mortality, and recognizing that methods exist for the collection of data on deaths in households in the course of a population census,

1. Invites Governments to give priority to the planning and undertaking of the next population and housing census;

2. Recommends that countries lacking adequate vital statistics systems give due consideration to the collection and analysis of data in the 2000 round of population censuses for the estimation of levels of mortality;

3. Calls upon relevant organization of the United Nations system, donor Governments, through multilateral and bilateral mechanisms, and non-governmental organizations to provide the necessary support to those countries in need in undertaking such censuses, including the building of national capacity.



UNITED NATIONS **E**

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.9/1998/L.4
26 February 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Thirty-first session
23-27 February 1998
Agenda item 3 (a)

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: HEALTH AND MORTALITY

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), on the basis of informal consultations

Health and mortality

The Commission on Population and Development,

Recalling the health-related recommendations of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Reaffirming the commitment of member States to the implementation of those recommendations and, in particular, to the objective of reducing disparities among and within countries in health, morbidity and mortality,

Expressing concern that global challenges, including emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis, pose significant new threats to the gains achieved thus far in infant, child, and maternal mortality and to countries' efforts to improve reproductive health, child health, and adolescent health,

Expressing concern also that many developing countries face constraints with regard to, inter alia, financial and human resources which hinder their capacities to ensure better health conditions and life expectancy for their populations and to monitor health and mortality trends,

Expressing concern also that life expectancy has decreased, male mortality has increased, and a number of other health and vital indicators have worsened in countries with economies in transition as well as in some developing

countries, such that many countries (71, as projected by the United Nations) are not expected to meet their life expectancy goals by the year 2005, and about 44 per cent of the developing countries are not expected to meet their goals for infant and under-five mortality by the year 2000,

Recognizing that progress in implementing the health-related recommendations and achieving significant health gains depends on preventing disease, promoting healthy lifestyles, improving health systems, [including the availability and accessibility of generic drugs], and enhancing local, national and international capacities to monitor health and mortality trends,

1. Calls on the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to work in close coordination with each other and with other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, in cooperation with Governments, in strengthening national capacities to collect, analyse, and utilize health and mortality data at both national and local levels, in the priority areas of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, including infant, child, adolescent, and maternal health and mortality; sexual and reproductive health, with special attention to family planning, sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS; violence against women and children and female genital mutilation and other harmful practices; and in the areas of infectious disease, substance abuse, and measurement of adult mortality and morbidity;

2. Requests the Population Division and the United Nations Population Fund to explore ways and means - such as the establishment of an internationally accessible electronic database - to facilitate the exchange of information among all relevant actors on various levels concerning best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

[3. Calls for assistance to developing countries, including, inter alia, transfer of technology to build capacity to produce generic drugs, thereby strengthening their national health services;]

4. Urges Governments, assisted upon request by the international community, to strengthen their efforts to achieve the health and mortality goals set by the Programme of Action, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and local communities.

UNITED NATIONS **E**

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.9/1998/L.5
26 February 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON POPULATION
AND DEVELOPMENT
Thirty-first session
23-27 February 1998
Agenda item 3 (b)

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: PROCESS FOR THE QUINQUENNIAL REVIEW AND APPRAISAL IN 1999

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), on the basis of informal consultations

The Commission on Population and Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/188 of 18 December 1997, on population and development,

Noting the work being done by the relevant United Nations bodies and the Secretariat's proposed outline for the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the quinquennial review and appraisal of progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, while bearing in mind the views expressed by Member States at the thirty-first session of the Commission on Population and Development,

Stressing the need to ensure that the review of the International Conference on Population and Development will be a coordinated process which

will reinvigorate and strengthen efforts at the local, national and international levels fully to implement the Programme of Action,

1. Requests the Secretariat to prepare, as soon as possible and no later than the end of June 1998, and to make available to States a comprehensive plan, including a timetable, for the preparatory process of inter-agency consultations, technical meetings and round-table meetings, including those at the regional level, setting out the purpose, working methods and key anticipated outcomes of each and how they will contribute to the review and appraisal report. In preparing this plan, the Population Division and the United Nations Population Fund should work closely together, as they did in the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, and in consultation, as appropriate, with other relevant bodies, and hold regular briefings for States;

2. Requests that the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the quinquennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action, coordinated by the Population Division; the report of the International Forum on the operational review of the Programme of Action, coordinated by the United Nations Population Fund; and the draft report of the Secretary-General for the special session of the General Assembly on the further implementation of the Programme of Action, also coordinated by the Population Fund; to be prepared for the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-second session, should focus on, inter alia:

(a) Analysis of key successes and constraints as well as lessons learned in developing effective strategies and actions in the implementation of the Programme of Action and changes in policy, programmes and resource allocations at the national and international levels towards a more comprehensive achievement of the goals of the Conference;

(b) Strengthening coordination throughout the United Nations system and between the United Nations system, Governments and other actors, such as the multilateral development banks and civil society;

(c) Domestic, bilateral and multilateral resources made available as of 31 December 1998; estimates of resources expected to be made available as of 31 December 1999; examples of effective and efficient use made of available resources, and circumstances for improving the environment, with a view to increased financial support from the international community for population and development activities;

(d) Methodology and mechanisms for monitoring progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

3. Recommends that the length of the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development be extended to seven working days, in March 1999.

UNITED NATIONS **E**

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.9/1998/L.6
26 February 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Thirty-first session
23-27 February 1998
Agenda item 6

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

Note by the Secretariat

1. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII), the following draft provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission has been prepared on the basis of existing legislative authority. It will be completed at the present session in the light of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission and will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for review, in accordance with Council resolution 1979/41.

2. According to the topic-oriented and prioritized multi-year work programme of the Commission, which was endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1995/55, the theme for 1999 is population growth, structure and distribution.

A. COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT ACTING IN REGULAR SESSION

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda of the regular session of the Commission on Population and Development and other organizational matters.

3. World population situation.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends.

4. Follow-up to actions on the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development.

   (a) Population growth, structure and distribution;

   (b) Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development.

   Documentation

   Concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring: population growth, structure and distribution

   Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources in international assistance for population

   Report on the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development

   Report of the ACC Task Force on Basic Social Services for All, dealing with the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

5. Work of the Commission on Population and Development in the next quinquennium

6. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and the programme of work for the 1998-1999 biennium: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission.

   Documentation

   Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission on Population and Development

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-second session.

B. COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT ACTING AS PREPARATORY BODY FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda of the Commission on Population and Development acting as preparatory body and other organizational matters.

3. Preparation for the special session of the General Assembly.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Report of the International Forum on the operational review of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Draft report of the Secretary-General for the special session of the General Assembly on the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

4. Adoption of the report of the Commission at its thirty-second session, acting as preparatory body.